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Students Spend Summer Vacation Working At NASA Wallops Flight Facility

Most students take a break from educational activities during the summer, but nine local students decided to extend their "school year" at the NASA Goddard Space Flight Center's Wallops Flight Facility, Wallops Island, VA.

Students in the 2001 Summer High School Apprenticeship Research Program (SHARP) and the National Space Club Scholars Program are spending their summer vacations working in various locations at the Wallops Flight Facility. Space Club Scholars conduct a six-week internship and SHARP students an eight-week internship working along side a Wallops employee.

NASA Wallops distributes applications to area high school guidance counselors in January of each year. Interested students submit applications to NASA and the National Space Club and are selected for placement on a competitive basis. Once the students have been selected, they are assigned to work with a mentor in a specific area of science or technology.

Both programs offer an intensive experience in engineering and science and are designed to increase and diversify the pool of students applying for mathematics, science and engineering college majors and careers. During the apprenticeship, students have the opportunity to conduct meaningful research and participate in a variety of educational and professional activities.

This year's SHARP students are: Heather Satterlee, Nandua High School; Sidrah Ahmad and Juan Avila from Pocomoke High School; and Neil Bonsteel, Parkside High School.

The Space Club Scholars are: Joseph Boggs, Nandua High School; Tim Fleury, Georgetown Preparatory School; Christopher Shipper, James M. Bennett High School; Matthew Jackson, Holly Grove Christian School; and Kurt Yungel, Parkside High School.